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General Assembly

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Agenda item 115 (e)
Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

Appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Note by the Secretary-General

1. As indicated in document A/72/105 of 8 March 2017, the General Assembly will be required, at its current session, to appoint two persons to fill the vacancies that will arise in the membership of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, for a three-year term of office[1] beginning on 1 January 2018.

2. The following individuals have been nominated by their Governments for appointment or reappointment to the Independent Audit Advisory Committee:

Richard Quartei Quartey (Ghana)
Janet St. Laurent (United States of America)

3. The candidates' curricula vitae are contained in the annex to the present note.

[1] Members shall serve for three years and can be re-elected for a second and final term of three years.

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Annex

Curriculum vitae*

Richard Quartei Quartey (Ghana)

He was responsible for the strategic planning of all audits and has between 2010 and 2016 presented several reports to Parliament, including financial, compliance, Information Technology, Performance (including infrastructural), Environmental and Extractive Industries (Oil & Gas) reports.

Between 1994 and 1999 he carried out audit assignments at the United Nations Headquarters, New York on United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania.

He represented the Auditor-General's Office on the Accounting Standards Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (Ghana) in 2005 to formulate accounting standards for Ghana (Ghana National Accounting Standards).

Between 2010 and 2014 Mr. Quartey acted as chairman of the Audit Committee of AFROSAI-E, a sub-regional body of INTOSAI and from 2010 to 2016 chaired the Audit Working Group (Sub-committee of the Public Financial Management system of the Government of Ghana where Development Partners (Multi-Donor Budget Support Group) meet to discuss the governance aspect of donor support to Ghana.

Mr. Richard Quartey was appointed External Auditor of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and its sister agencies for the period covering July 2012 to June 2016 and has between 2014 and 2016 served as a member of the United Nations Panel of External Auditors.

He was the Joint External Auditor of International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) from 2014 to 2016 and also served as a council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (Ghana) during the same period.

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

Janet St. Laurent (United States of America)

Janet St. Laurent is the U.S. Government Accountability Organization (GAO) Director of the Center for Audit Excellence. The Center's mission is to build institutional auditing capacity and promote good governance by providing high quality training, technical assistance, and related services to domestic and international accountability organizations. As Director of the Center, Ms. St Laurent is responsible for leading the development of Center training, technical assistance services, and projects as well as developing relationships to build institutional audit capacity in domestic and international organizations with similar goals. Ms. St. Laurent is also responsible for recruiting and supervising Center staff and developing and implementing sound business processes and internal controls to achieve the Center's mission.

From January 2008 to January 2014, Ms. St Laurent served as Managing Director of GAO's Defense Capabilities and Management team. Her principal duties included managing GAO's work on defense issues including military operations, force structure, readiness, logistics, infrastructure, defense budget, emerging threats, and military and civilian personnel issues. During her tenure, she led her team to achieve more than $30 billion in financial savings as a result of recommendations made to and implemented by the Department of Defense. She has testified numerous times before congressional committees, including the House and Senate Armed Services Committees. As Managing Director, she also mentored and supported the professional development of 250 staff members by developing team-based training, serving as an Adjunct Faculty member in GAO's Learning Center, and hiring and promoting staff. In addition, Ms. St Laurent was appointed by the Comptroller General to co-lead GAO's first two congressionally-mandated annual reports examining duplication, overlap, and fragmentation among U.S. federal government programs.

Prior to 2008, Ms. St Laurent was the GAO Director for Force Structure and Defense Planning, responsible for leading analyses of defense planning, strategic forces, force structure, and military transformation issues. She also served in GAO's Boston, New York, and Frankfurt, Germany offices, analysing and reporting on a wide range of federal activities including U.S. foreign assistance programs, international food assistance, United Nations issues, and internal control and procurement issues.

Ms. St Laurent holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from Syracuse University, a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College, and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Ms. St Laurent has received numerous awards at GAO, including the Comptroller General Leadership Award and the GAO Integrity Award. In 2015, she received the Distinguished Public Administration Alumni Award from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. In 2011, she was selected as a Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal finalist in recognition of her work on national security issues. She has participated in numerous public speaking engagements, including appearances on CSPAN, Bloomberg News, and public radio.